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July 23, 2021

Dear School Community:

Re: COVID-19 Youth Vaccination

We look forward to seeing students, staff and family back at school in September. In order to reduce the number of cases of COVID-19 in our community, and in our schools, Toronto Public Health continues to work with schools and school boards to provide those who are eligible opportunities to get their first or second COVID-19 vaccine doses.

There is still time to get fully vaccinated before school starts. The first day of school is about seven weeks away. Youth 12 years of age and older, at the time of vaccination are eligible for COVID-19 vaccine. To be fully vaccinated before school starts, students will need two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. **All students who have not received a first dose should get one as soon as possible**, or get your second dose if your first dose was at least 28 days ago. To make it as easy as possible, first dose walk-in appointments are now available at most vaccine clinics.

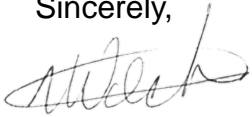
Currently about 73% of 12 to 17 year olds in Toronto have already received one dose of vaccine. We encourage all youth and their family members to book a vaccination appointment as soon as possible at [Book a Vaccine](#) or by attending a walk-in clinic. Toronto Public Health will also be offering some pop-up vaccination clinics in community sites to help reach more youth. For more information on how to get vaccinated, visit our [website](#). With your continued support and promotion, we are confident we can increase vaccinations in youth and have them receive both doses before the start of school in September.

Some helpful resources on Youth vaccinations include:

- TPH's [COVID-19 Vaccines](#) webpage with more information on [children and vaccines](#)
- TPH's [COVID-19 Vaccine Resources](#) website for more information on the vaccine, including posters and infographics available in multiple languages.
- TPH [COVID-19 Vaccine Resource List for Youth](#).
- We have also added a COVID-19 Vaccine Tab on our [school web page](#), and [parent web page](#).
- Children's COVID-19 Vaccine Advisory Table www.kidshealthfirst.ca

Thank you for all that you are doing to keep our schools and communities safe. Please continue to visit our website at: www.toronto.ca/COVID19 to stay up-to-date. Information specific to school communities is available at: [COVID-19 school information for parents & caregivers](#). If you have general questions about COVID-19, please call our Hotline at 416-338-7600, Monday-Sunday 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM. Interpretation services are available. If you need immediate health care assistance, please call Telehealth Ontario 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 1-866-797-0000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicole Welch', written in a cursive style.

Nicole Welch
Director
COVID-19 School Response Team
Chief Nursing Officer